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Message Text

SECRET

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16
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 IO-14 OMB-01 ACDA-19 AID-20 DRC-01 /156 W
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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1020
INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION NATO

S E C R E T PARIS 17719

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, FR, GR
SUBJECT: CYPRUS: GOF VIEW OF GREEK INTERNAL SITUATION

1. IN OUR DISCUSSIONS ABOUT CYPRUS CRISIS WITH FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS AT VARIOUS LEVELS, IT CLEAR THAT FRENCH DIPLOMATIC REPORTING AND ANALYSIS IS HEAVILY ANTIPATHETIC TOWARD GREEK GOVERNMENT. QUAI EUROPEAN DIRECTOR DE MARGERIE SATURDAY MORNING SUMMARIZED FRENCH EMBASSY ATHENS ANALYSIS THAT CYPRUS COUP MOTIVATED BY DESIRE OF A WEAK GREEK GOVERNMENT TO COMPENSATE FOR ITS WEAKNESS BY STRIKING A BLOW FOR HELLENISM. MAKARIOS HAD BECOME THE BETE NOIRE FOR THE GREEK OFFICERS BECAUSE OF HIS DETERMINATION TO

HUMILIATE THE GREEK ARMY BY REQUESTING WITHDRAWAL OF OFFICERS FROM CYPRIOT NATIONAL GUARD. THEY THEREFORE HAD TO REPEAT THE ATHENS COUP IN NICOSIA. THE GREEK OFFICERS MADE A BET THAT THE FALL OF MAKARIOS WOULD BE ACCEPTED AS A FAIT ACCOMPLI. FRENCH AMBASSADOR IN ATHENS BELIEVES MODERATES IN GREECE HAVE A GREAT FEAR OF ADVENTURISM WHICH THEY FEEL PERMEATES GREEK OFFICER CORPS, AND WOULD WELCOME INTERNATIONAL ACTION TO RESTORE PEACE AND STABILITY. GOF HAS REPORT THAT YOUNGER GREEK
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OFFICERS SPOILING FOR FIGHT WITH TURKS. DE MARGERIE

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ALSO INDICATED THAT THIS VIEW IS HELD BY MAJORITY OF
EC-NINE EMBASSIES IN ATHENS.

2. FOREGOING TRANSMITTED AS IMPORTANT BACKDROP TO
ONGOING GOF ANALYSIS OF CYPRUS CRISIS.
IRWIN

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NNN

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